

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, more than three thousand people of Khoda colony in my Parliamentary Constituency had subscribed their names for telephone. More than two years have passed but they have not been provided the telephone connection so far. There is resentment among people on this matter. I talked to their General Manager on phone. He told me that during 1995-96 they sent a proposal to set up an exchange having ten thousand telephone lines under NOIDA exchange. But Union Government have not taken any action on this proposal so far. Therefore, through you I want to request the hon'ble Communications Minister to sanction setting up of exchange of ten thousand lines at the earliest so that the people can get the telephone facility and their resentment is removed.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very serious matter. At the time of Punjab Election 30 companies of Security forces were withdrawn from our Doda district and those companies have not been sent back to Doda till date. The result of it is that four days ago, three persons were kidnapped from Desa village and their bullet ridden dead bodies have been found there, yesterday. Hon'ble Home Minister is not here, I want to request him to send the forces immediately which have been withdrawn from there. The result of it is that whole Doda district is virtually surrounded by militants at present. Foreign mercenaries have come there in such a large number that people cannot walk freely. These three persons were the farmers, who came to purchase wood and were kidnapped. Their dead bodies have been found on roadside, yesterday only. I want to request you that since the new Government came to power there, the village defence committees are not being constituted, weapons are not being provided to the people and facilities are not being provided to the village defence committees. You can imagine how people sitting in their houses on the hills at the height of 14 thousand feet can line when army of the Government is on the road. I want to request you for three things. one is to redeploy the companies there which were withdrawn from there at the time of Punjab election. Second thing is to constitute village committee there and give remuneration to them and provide them weapons so that they can work there properly.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House toward a burning issue. There was shortage of small change all over the country some years back. The coins of 5 paise, 10 paise and 25 paise have vanished. But presently there is shortage of currency notes. The currency notes of one rupee, two rupee and 5 rupee are not available anywhere and if we get these notes they are soiled notes. Due to it the people have made their own currency and are running their work by making their own currency of paper and card. Mr. Chairman, Sir through you, I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister towards it and request him to start the circulation of currency notes of small value immediately which have been discontinued by the Government and my other request is that Government has circulated several coins which create confusion. 5 rupee coin is similar to 50 paise coin and two rupee coin is similar to one rupee coin, due to which people commit mistakes and suffer losses, therefore, this is my request to consider this problem seriously.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagadh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are celebrating the birth anniversary of martyr and leader of Indian National Army

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose all over India. We can pay him our real tributes by naming Andaman and Nicobar Island as 'Shahid' and 'Swaraj' as in 1923 while taking control of Andaman and Nikobar, he had suggested these names but even after the independence the names of these islands were not changed as per his wishes. So I demand from Government of India that on the occasion of birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the names of these islands be changed to 'Shahid' and 'Swaraj' I request that Andaman & Nicobar islands may be developed as tourist spots so that the people of our country and foreign tourists get such information about these two islands that people may be curious to see these islands. The tourist industry will develop by the visits of people. A human size statue of Subash Chandra Bose must be installed in these two islands.

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : Sir, the recent decision of the Government of India to reduce the monthly quota of allotment of foodgrains for supply to Tripura by 4000 metric tonnes is very unfortunate. Earlier, the Government had allotted 16,000 metric tonnes of foodgrains as monthly quota. But the recent decision has created a great problem to the people of Tripura. Tripura never gets even 13,000 metric tonnes of foodgrains due to shortage of adequate facilities of the FCI and also inadequate number of wagons of the Railways. Now the population is increasing day by day. So, the Government of India should supply foodgrains at half the rate to the people living below the poverty line and the provision in EAs and other BMNS should supply foodgrains as a part of a remuneration for jobs. The State Government has demanded a supply of 28,400 metric tonnes of foodgrains per month.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government should ensure that. Is it ?

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : It needs to be mentioned here that these impediments in drawing the full quota need be removed at the earliest and the increased demand of 28,400 metric tonnes of foodgrains needs to be fulfilled in order to effectively implement the former Prime Minister's assurance given to the States of the North-East.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE (Bilaspur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to request the Union Government to provide 100% grants for irrigation resources to the farmers of an irrigated areas to improve their economic condition. 100% grants must be provided to instal tubewells in the fields for irrigation and also for electrification.

Sir, through you, I request the Union Government that the crops of Rabi, Kharif like paddy, gram, Tavata, Kodo als, peas, sugarcane, coriander, peanut get destroyed due to draughts and non-availability of sufficient irrigation facilities to the farmers of un-irrigated area due to which the condition of farmers is deteriorating. Farmers are reeling under the burden of debts due to which they are becoming poorer. Therefore, I request that Government of India should make an announcement to sanction 100% grants for providing irrigation facilities to the farmers.

13.53 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fifty five minutes past fourteen of the clock*